

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

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32. NEW RECORDS OF PRAWNS, SHRIMPS AND AMPHIPODS FROM LAKE KOLLERU WITH NOTES ON THEIR DISTRIBUTION

Lake Kollru (250 sq. km.) is the largest among the essentially freshwater lakes of India although it is connected to the Bay of Bengal. It is situated in Andhra Pradesh between 16° 31'-16° 47' N and 81° 4'-81° 22' E. A preliminary survey of the flora, fauna and fisheries of the lake, made by Chacko *et al.* (1952) listed five species of prawns; Panikker & Menon (1955) referred to seven species of prawns. There was no previous record of the amphipods of the lake.

Altogether 14 species of prawns and 11 species of amphipods were recorded during the years 1975-1978 and are listed below.

PRAWNS

Family: PALAEMONIDAE

1. *Macrobrachium rosenbergii schenkeli* Johnson
2. *M. malcolmsonii malcolmsonii* (Milne-Edwards)
3. *M. idella* (Hilgendorf)
4. *M. rude* (Heller)
5. *M. scabriculum* (Heller)
6. *M. lamarrei lamarrei* (Milne-Edwards)

Family: ATYIDAE

7. *Caridina pseudogracilirostris* Thomas. Pillai & Pillai
8. *C. rajadhari* Bouvier
9. *C. propinqua* de Man
10. *C. weberi sumatrensis* de Man

Family: PENAEIDAE

11. *Penaeus (Penaeus) monodon* (Fabricius)
12. *Penaeus (Fenneropenaeus) indicus* Milne-Edwards
13. *Metapenaeus dobsoni* (Miers)
14. *M. monoceros* (Fabricius)

AMPHIPODS

Family: AMPHILOCHIDAE

15. *Amphilocheus brunneus* Della Valle

Family: COROPHIDAE

16. *Grandidierella bonnieroides* Stephenson
17. *G. gravipes* Chilton
18. *Corophium madrasensis* Nayar
19. *Podocerospis insignis* Chilton

Family: EUSIRIDAE

20. *Paracalliope indica* Barnard

Family: GAMMARIDAE

21. *Elasmopus pecteniscus* (Bate)
22. *Eriopisella sychellensis* (Chevreux)
23. *Quadrivisio bengalensis* Stebbing

Family: TALITRIDAE

24. *Orchestia platensis* Kroyer
25. *Talorchestia martensii* (Weber)

Seven (3, 6, 7 to 10, 13) of the 14 prawns and shrimps listed above are recorded for the

first time from the lake. The majority of the forms are freshwater in origin. Marine component of the fauna is poor (11 to 14). The bulk of commercial prawn catch is composed of four species (1, 2, 13, 14). The distribution of forms 1 to 5 is predominantly coastal though there are some localities well removed from the sea along the course of large rivers. Atyid species (7 to 10) are generally distributed among the roots of floating vegetation and slow-moving water.

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All the amphipods (15 to 25) are being recorded for the first time from the lake. *Podoceros insignis* was earlier recorded only from Tale Sap in Thailand; it is recorded for the first time from outside that area. The present record of amphipods helps to bridge the distributional gap between the southern and north-eastern parts of India.

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CHACKO, P. L., ABRAHAM, J. G. & ANDAL, R. (1952): A survey of the flora, fauna and fisheries of the Collair lake. *Indo-Commercial J., Madras*. 7: 274-280.

PANIKKAR, N. K. & MENON, M. K. (1955): Prawn fisheries of India. *Proc. Indo-Pacific Fish. Coun.* 6: 328-344.

33. A FIRST REPORT OF AN ARACHNID ORDER UROPYGIDA (WHIP SCORPION) FROM MAHARASHTRA (With a text-figure)

The Uropygids, commonly known as whip-scorpions, are natives of Oriental and Neotropical evergreen forests. At once recognisable from Scorpions by the presence of a deep constriction between the cephalothorax and abdomen, by the absence of pectines and a long thin whiplike tail instead of a broadly segmented metasoma bearing a poison gland at the tip. Whipscorpions are animals of moderate size, and range between 20-50 mm in total body length. They generally live under bark and forest litter and thus go unnoticed. There are about 44 species under 15 genera from the Oriental region of which only 6 species of 4 genera have so far been described from India,

namely *Thelyphonus sepiaris* Butler, 1873 (Madras, Tamil Nadu), *T. cristatus* Pocock, 1900 (West Bengal), *Uroproctus assamensis* Stolicza, 1869 (Khasi Hills, Meghalaya), *Labochirus tauricornis* Pocock, 1899 (Mangalore, Karnataka) and *Hypoctonus oatesii* Pocock, 1900 (Assam) (Fig. 1A).

It is apparent from the distributional records that the Indian species of whipscorpions have been reported only from southern, eastern and north-eastern parts of the country and hitherto there was no record available of this group from western India and especially from Maharashtra. Thus this note intends to place on record the existence of this order in the state